



The Seattle City Attorney's *Liaison Links*

**Quarterly Connection to the People and
Programs of your *Precinct Liaison*
Offices**

South - North - East - West

Fall 2002

Volume 3, Issue 3

*Please visit the Precinct Liaison web site:
www.cityofseattle.net/law/precinct_liaisons*

Also in this issue:

- *West Precinct Liaison,
Feds Bust Counterfeiter
- *New East Precinct
Captain
- *Regional Community
Prosecution Conference
- *Noise Ordinance
Enforcement
- *New Rules End
Encampments Beneath
Alaskan Way Viaduct

COMMUNITY TEAMWORK THWARTS EXCESS LIQUOR SALES

Ed McKenna

When a small strip-mall store recently applied for a liquor license, 23rd and Union corridor community members and organizations expressed a number of concerns, primarily the abundance of establishments already selling alcohol. With four other liquor sales outlets nearby, residents perceived the area as over-saturated with alcohol-sales and foresaw negative consequences.

Concerned residents spoke with each another, issues were raised at neighborhood meetings, business owners were contacted and organized opposition grew. Business owners, residents and community groups drafted letters to the Washington State Liquor Control Board to express opposition to the license. One letter addressed how businesses, agencies, daycare centers, eateries and others had begun to participate in revitalizing this

Continued on page 2

WEST PRECINCT LIAISON WINS TWO DRUG PARAPHERNALIA CASES

Shelley Hickey

The west precinct liaison attorney, in collaboration with the west precinct night act team and the community police team, filed misdemeanor criminal charges of drug paraphernalia against the owners of the Fourth Avenue Deli (2225 Fourth Avenue) and the Pike Street Smoke Shop (1411 Second Avenue).

In each case, an employee of the business sold to an undercover officer an "angelic crystal" pen made of a heat-resistant substance that can be disassembled and used to smoke crack cocaine. Prior to the undercover purchases, both business owners were provided written and verbal warnings together with a demonstration of the items classified drug paraphernalia and illegal to sell.

The storeowners each plead to a two-year dispositional continuance. If they eliminate the remainder of their glass pipe inventory and

Continued on page 2

SOUTH PRECINCT GREETES NEW LIAISON, TUERE SALA

Tuere Sala

The new south precinct liaison's first day on the job was October 7, 2002. Since then Tuere Sala's schedule has been filled with reviewing open cases, going on ride-alongs with CPT officers, and participating in community meetings with residents and business owners of the south precinct.

The commitment level Sala has observed is outstanding, along with the CPT officers' knowledge and historical perspective regarding their sectors. They provided in depth orientation that included identifying areas of concern along with the neighborhood successes.

Sala is also thankful for the level of research and documentation of her predecessor, Trish Nellesmoe. Sala has met with community leaders such as Mariana Quartnstrom who

Continued on page 3

COMMUNITY TEAMWORK

Continued from page 1

community. The letter went on to say, “... granting a liquor license will have an adverse effect and compromise community progress.” Still other letters discussed alcohol-related crimes and social consequences. Finally, a petition for signatures was circulated in opposition to the liquor license application.

Upon hearing so resoundingly of the community’s resolve, the precinct liaison attorney worked with community members and the police department in putting together a package of documents for presentation to the liquor board. The package included photographs of the area and the applicant’s establishment, a map indicating the location of existing liquor-selling businesses, community and business letters, and a cover letter summarizing concerns and potential legal ramifications.

Upon review of the issues raised by the community, the liquor board required the applicant to provide additional documentation; when the applicant failed to do so, the liquor board withdrew the application from further consideration.

DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

Continued from page 1

cease selling drug paraphernalia, they will obtain dismissal of the charge at the end of two years. If

either storeowner sells a glass pipe used to smoke crack cocaine during the two-year continuance period, he faces potential jail time.

Both storeowners were also required to pay court costs, and the owner of the Fourth Avenue Deli agreed to perform 15 hours of community service.

SPD continues to serve written warning letters on those businesses reported or observed selling drug paraphernalia, and community members are encouraged to contact the west precinct community police team office or the west precinct liaison attorney to report such activity.

AGENCIES COMBINE EFFORTS FOR PROTECTION OF ELDERLY RESIDENT

Ed McKenna

An elderly homeowner taking in a roommate is not an unusual event. But when Seattle police learn the new roommate is a known drug dealer and user, they become suspicious of his or her motives.

After purchasing drugs through a confidential informant, police obtained a search warrant for one such residence. The search revealed narcotics and related paraphernalia in the possession of the new roommate, and King County prosecutors filed drug charges against the offender. CPT officer Tim Greeley then brought the situation to the attention of the east precinct liaison attorney. With the consent of the family, the attorney

general’s office initiated proceedings whereby the elderly homeowner, more than 90 years old, was deemed a “vulnerable adult,” which resulted in the issuance of an order restraining the suspect from the residence.

Meanwhile, a review of the suspect’s criminal history revealed she was under community supervision from the Department of Corrections (DOC) for a prior narcotics offense, and had failed to report to her corrections officer. DOC was notified and is now seeking enforcement action by revoking the community placement. In addition, the suspect was discovered to be on probation from Seattle Municipal Court. The criminal division of the city attorney’s office filed a notice of probation violation, and will request the court revoke probation and hold the suspect in custody.

“It’s a wonderful coordinated enforcement effort,” reported officer Greeley. “The resident is secure, thanks to the efforts of everyone involved. The sad thing is that this elderly resident isn’t the first to have been taken advantage of, but I hope he’s the last.”

One of the most important goals of the precinct liaison program is building partnerships with community members and other enforcement agencies. By communicating with enforcement partners, problem-solving efforts can better coordinate to more effectively deal with community issues.

NEW SOUTH LIAISON

Continued from page 1

provided invaluable details about their communities. Their dedication and tireless efforts are crucial to the success of this program.

CAPITOL HILL NOW HAS CAPTAIN HILL

Phil Brenneman

Liaison Links congratulates Fred Hill on his promotion to captain and appointment as commander of the east precinct. We look forward to working with him on community problem solving matters.

Captain Hill began his career with the Seattle police department in January 1970. As an officer he worked in patrol, personnel & training, and was then promoted to sergeant in 1980 working in the north, south and east precincts. As sergeant he also worked in the inspections & planning section.

Captain Hill served as lieutenant for nineteen years, from 1983 until his promotion to Captain. For the last two years he served as operations lieutenant under Captain Mark Evenson.

Hill attended Ballard High School, and later earned an AA degree in law enforcement from Shoreline Community College and a BA in criminal justice from Seattle University.

Hill and Chris, his wife of 33 years, have two adult children: Aaron, a captain in the Marine

Corps and Jeremy, a businessman in Spokane. When not working Captain Hill spends much of his time fly-fishing and cross-country skiing.

WEST PRECINCT LIAISON, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENTS BUST INTERSTATE COUNTERFEITER

Shelley Hickey

The Washington State Liquor Control Board working with the west precinct liaison, the criminal division of the city attorney's office, Washington State Patrol (WSP), United States Secret Service and the United States Attorney's Office completed a successful investigation that resulted in a federal conviction of a suspect charged with manufacturing and delivering false identification cards to minors.

Service of alcohol to minors can severely and negatively impact the safety and welfare of residents and communities throughout Seattle.

Responsible nightclub owners reported to Seattle liquor agents that minors were presenting false identification cards at their businesses in the downtown area. Agents, led by David Quiggle, interviewed several minors who purchased false ID cards. Based on information from the minors, and with the help of the precinct liaison attorney and resources of the city attorney's criminal division, liquor board agents obtained a search warrant to review employee records from the

suspect's employer in Lynnwood, Washington. Based upon the liquor board agents' information, six charges of preparing or acquiring facsimile identification card(s) were filed against the suspect (RCW 66.44.328).

Due to the suspect's flight risk, the court issued an arrest warrant in the amount of \$25,000.00 cash.

The precinct liaison and the city attorney's criminal division then helped liquor board agents obtain a search warrant for the suspect's residence to search for computer equipment and other items used to manufacture the false documents. A fraud detective from WSP was instrumental in helping to write the search warrant based on her work on similar cases. After liquor board agents, with the help of the WSP and Lynnwood police, served the warrant on the suspect's home, the case gained attention of the U.S. Secret Service. Liquor agents recovered sophisticated computer equipment and other items designed to manufacture high quality identification cards. They also uncovered information to indicate the suspect was conducting similar operations in other states, and manufacturing fraudulent traveler's checks.

As a result, the Secret Service and U.S. Attorney's Office prepared federal charges against the suspect resulting in a federal felony conviction of possession

Continued on page 4

INTERSTATE COUNTERFEITER

Continued from page 3

of identification making equipment. The city's charges against the suspect were dismissed as part of his plea agreement in federal court. The federal conviction carries a penalty of six to twelve months in prison. The suspect will be sentenced in January 2003.

SEATTLE TEAM ATTENDS REGIONAL COMMUNITY PROSECUTION CONFERENCE

Robert Hood

A team representing Seattle traveled to Austin, Texas in October to attend the Western Region Community Prosecution Conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice. The Seattle team included **Art Huffine**, co-chair of the east precinct advisory council, **Ed McKenna**, east/north precinct liaison attorney, **Mike Dermody**, SPD's new operations lieutenant for the east precinct, and **Robert Hood**, precinct liaison program grant manager. The conference provided training and technical assistance to jurisdictions in receipt of community prosecution grants. More than twenty-five jurisdictions from seven western states were represented.

The conference included three days of lively discussions during plenary, workshop and networking sessions concerning

major issues and challenges faced by communities in their problem solving across the country. Several sessions focused on the critical importance of building strong prosecutor-police-community partnerships to address community issues. And several sessions focused on developing program evaluation tools and building strategies to ensure sustainability of programs after grant funding ends.

By the end of the conference, three things stood out. First, virtually all programs are facing significant challenges in maintaining activities in the face of stressed state, county, and local budgets. Second, despite these difficulties, near universal agreement exists that due to the importance of these programs to community problem-solving efforts, community prosecution will continue to grow as an important and permanent resource. Finally, after viewing other programs from around the country, it is clear that our own Precinct Liaison Program remains on the leading edge of the community prosecution movement.

NEW RULES END ENCAMPMENT BENEATH ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT

Shelley Hickey

As the result of collaborative efforts between the Seattle Police Department (SPD), west precinct liaison attorney and Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), a rule

has been enacted by SDOT which prohibits sleeping, camping and leaving personal items unattended on SDOT property. The new rule also authorizes police to trespass persons engaged in such prohibited behaviors; SPD officers may now issue trespass admonishments to violators and arrest repeat offenders.

SDOT enacted the rule in response to a large number of complaints from business owners and residents who work and live near the Alaskan Way Viaduct between Yesler Way and Royal Brougham, with regular reports of persons sleeping, camping and stowing or abandoning personal belongings. The community endured large quantities of garbage appearing on a daily basis, evidence of public urination and defecation around "camp sites," increased drug activity and intimidating behavior by transient residents. In addition, increasing encampments prevented people from parking in provided legitimate spaces and passing through established rights-of-way. Confrontations were reported between area visitors and those sleeping in or near parking spaces, and also between "campers" and those responsible for cleaning areas under and around the Viaduct.

In response to growing complaints, the west precinct liaison attorney and attorneys from the civil division of the municipal law section worked

Continued on page 5

with SDOT to draft a rule prohibiting camping, sleeping and storing garbage and unattended personal belongings on SDOT property, and provide for removal of persons who refuse to follow the rules. SDOT will post signs in each affected area depicting and describing prohibited behaviors. The rule applies to SDOT property beneath the Alaskan Way Viaduct between Battery and Royal Brougham, and any other SDOT property so designated by a sign. Signs will be posted by mid-November and enforcement will begin immediately.

TWO NIGHTCLUBS CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL NOISE VIOLATIONS

Shelley Hickey, Phil Brenneman

Two nightclubs, Reitz's Ballroom Dancing Club in the International District and The Appointment in Pioneer Square, were recently charged with criminal noise violations resulting from community complaints of ongoing loud amplified noises lasting into the early morning hours.

Following months of complaints, Seattle police officers went to Reitz's Ballroom and surrounding area at midnight to monitor the noise and its impact on residents in the upper floors of the same building. Noise meter measurements and noise level recordings from within different apartments in the building resulted in SPD informing the owner of the Reitz that the club's music was too loud, and requested that she lower the volume. After she failed to comply, and based upon the officer's report, the liaison attorney

filed criminal charges against the two owners of Reitz. They will pay court costs of \$500.00, and both will remain on probation for two years during which time they must not violate the law. If further noise violations do occur, they face new criminal charges and possible jail time. (The Reitz's new name will be Reitz Sports Bar and Billiard Room.)

Similar criminal charges were filed against The Appointment, situated above a housing shelter suffering the impact of loud amplified music from the club into the early morning hours. Charges were filed based upon a report from SPD indicating that club management failed to lower the volume despite repeated warnings. Because complaints were received only for a short period before charges were filed, the City will continue the case for three months. If no further noise violations occur during this period, the matter will be dismissed.

Both nightclubs have been free of noise complaints since the appearance of their owners in court.

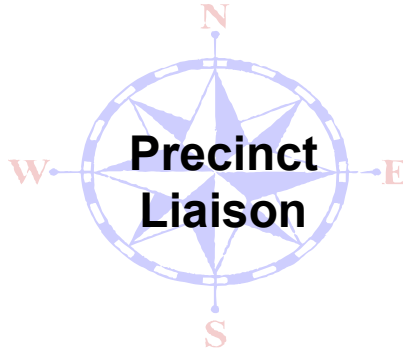
Dear Neighbor,

We hope you are finding the new look and layout of Liaison Links helpful. Your feedback is very important, so if you have any suggestions, please contact Cami Bayer: camibayer@seattle.gov or 206-684-8864

The Seattle City Attorney's
Liaison Links

North Liaison Attorney
Ed McKenna (T & Th)
206-684-7765

West Liaison Attorney
Shelley Hickey
206-386-4084



East Liaison Attorney
Ed McKenna (M, W & F)
206-684-4375

South Liaison Attorney
Tuere Sala
206-233-2020

Thomas Carr, 206-684-8288
Seattle City Attorney

Robert Hood, 206-684-7771
Criminal Division Chief

Phil Brenneman, 206-684-8224
Precinct Liaison Program Director

Cami Bayer, Administrative Specialist, 206-684-8864